

Leaving your pet in a parked vehicle, It can be deadly to your pet and IT IS AGAINST THE LAW¹

Common sense tells most people that leaving their pet inside a parked vehicle on a hot, summer day could be dangerous after an extended period of time. But most people don't realize that the temperature can skyrocket after just a few minutes. Parking in the shade or leaving the windows cracked does little to alleviate this pressure cooker.

On a warm, sunny day windows collect light, trapping heat inside the vehicle, and pushing the temperature inside to dangerous levels. On an 85degree Fahrenheit day, for example, the temperature inside a car with the windows opened slightly can reach 102 degrees within ten minutes. After 30 minutes, the temperature will reach 120 degrees. At 110 degrees, pets are in danger of heatstroke. On hot and humid days, the temperature in a car parked in direct sunlight can rise more than 30 degrees per minute, and guickly become lethal.

California Law, Penal Code Section 597





City of Long Beach **Animal Care Services Bureau**

7700 E. Spring Street Long Beach, CA 90815

Phone: (562) 570-7387 Fax: (562) 570-3053

www.longbeach.gov/acs



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It's not cool to leave your pet in a hot car

Pets, more so than humans, are susceptible to overheating. While people can roll down windows, turn on the air conditioner or exit the vehicle when they become too hot, pets cannot. And pets are much less efficient at cooling themselves than people are.

HEATSTROKE SYMPTOMS

Heatstroke symptoms include :Exaggerated panting (or the sudden stopping of panting), rapid or erratic pulse; salivation; anxious or staring expression; weakness and muscle tremors; lack of coordination; tongue and lips red (which may eventually turn bluish in color);convulsions or vomiting; collapse, coma and death.

EMERGENCY + TREATMENT

If your dog shows symptoms of heatstroke follow these instructions:

- Immediately move the animal to a cool shady place
- Wet the dog with cool water
- Fan vigorously to promote evaporation. This process will cool the blood, which reduces the dog's core temperature
- Do not apply ice. This constricts blood flow which will inhibit cooling
- Allow the dog to drink some cool water (or to lick ice cream if no water is available)
- Take the dog to a veterinarian as soon as possible for further treatment.

Veterinarians may apply supportive measures such as intravenous fluids to rehydrate the animal and oxygen to prevent brain damage.

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